

RANGE RULES

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS

RIFLE

ASSOCIATION

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P L E A S E R E A D C A R E F U L L Y

These rules are a codification of those practices which experience has shown to be most conducive to safety and to the maintenance of good public relations. Their observance is of the utmost importance to the safety of the individual and the welfare of the Association and the sport of shooting.

ANY VIOLATION OF THESE RULES WILL RESULT IN THE IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF RANGE PRIVILEGES, AND MAY RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM MEMBERSHIP UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH 6, ARTICLE VII, OF THE BY-LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Each new member, before taking advantage of his range privileges, will present himself to the Range Officer on any Saturday or Sunday afternoon, to be checked out as to his knowledge of these rules and his proficiency in handling the arms he intends to use.

Massachusetts Rifle Association — Range Rules adopted by Board of Directors, at meeting held on Tuesday, 6 August 1963.

GENERAL

1. On Sundays, no center fire shooting will be allowed prior to 10:30 A.M.

10:00

2. Before shooting, each person will sign the register, and will enter against his name the time he commences, the time he finishes, and the ranges and weapons used.

3. Shooting will be from the proper firing lines only.

4. Only paper targets are to be fired at with rifle or pistol, and only clay pigeons, or empty tin cans, in aerial (wing) shooting with the shotgun. This rule bars, on both indoor and outdoor ranges, shooting at target frames, target numbers, bottles, or any other form of mark except the targets specified.

5. The actions of all rifles, shotguns, and pistols, and the cylinders of all revolvers, will be open except when on the firing line. This does not apply to cased weapons.

6. Rifles and handguns will not be carried from the firing line to the targets while scoring or changing targets. They will be left at the line, the actions of rifles open, the magazines of autoloading pistols removed and the actions locked open, and the cylinders of revolvers open.

7. No piece will be loaded until the shooter is on the line ready to fire.

8. Before going from the firing line to the targets, a shooter will notify the others on the line; a "cease fire" will exist while he is forward of the line. It is expected that the shooter will show others the courtesy of allowing them to finish a string of shots, if they so desire, before he leaves the line and puts the "cease fire" into effect.

9. When persons are en route to or from the 200 yard Butt House, the danger signals will be dropped from the barrier and all shooting on that range will cease until travel is completed on 200 and 100 yd. range.

10. No hunting, or firing at any animal or bird, is allowed on the club property.

11. Quick draw practice and hip shooting is forbidden on the range property.

12. Handguns carried on the person must not be loaded while the bearer is on the club property, except in the case of law enforcement officers and the club Treasurer in the performance of their duties.

13. Each user of the range is responsible for picking up his empty cartridges, boxes, lunch boxes and papers, and other trash and placing it in the containers provided.

INDOOR RANGE

1. Only paper targets, hung on the pins provided on the backstop, will be fired at.

2. Ammunition is restricted to .22 short, long, and long rifle cartridges, and CO² or airgun pellets only. The use of .22 caliber magnum rim fire cartridges is expressly forbidden

3. While on the firing line, the rifle or handgun must always be kept pointing down range.

4. Pistols and revolvers will be loaded with not more than five cartridges at a time.

5. Rifles must be loaded with one cartridge at a time; no magazine loading is allowed.

6. Rapid fire pistol shooting is restricted to those who have qualified. To qualify, the member must fire, in the presence of a club officer, two consecutive 5 shot strings (10 seconds per string) at 50 feet on the pistol target for that range, keeping all ten shots on the target paper. A new shooter who wishes to practice rapid fire to become proficient must do so under supervision of a club officer or designated club member. This does not apply to visiting pistol teams.

7. Rapid fire Rifle shooting is allowed only with the permission of the Range Officer or Executive Officer.

8. Extreme care will be taken to keep shots on the backstop area and to avoid hitting the upper wall or ceiling.

OUTDOOR RANGES

1. This range is for use with the firearms customarily used in target shooting or hunting. No cannon, mortar, bazooka, machine gun, sub-machine gun or anti-tank weapon may be used thereon; no tracer, incendiary or explosive ammunition may be fired; no fireworks, grenades, bombs, explosives as distinguished from propellant powders, or detonating caps as used with dynamite will be set off thereon or brought on the range property for any purpose.

2. All calibers of pistols and revolvers may be fired on the range.

3. Care will be taken to keep the muzzle pointing down range at all times, and never to so elevate the muzzle while firing that a bullet therefrom would clear the barrier in front of the firing point.

4. Rapid fire pistol shooting is restricted to those who have qualified. Qualification will be as prescribed in paragraph 5 under "INDOOR RANGE," except that it will be at 25 yards on the 25 yard rapid fire target.

5. Rapid fire or sustained rifle shooting is also restricted to those who qualify. To qualify, the member must fire, in the presence of a club officer, 10 shots sustained fire sitting and 10 shots sustained fire prone, 60 seconds for each string, on the Army "A" target at 200 yards, keeping all 20 shots on the target paper. Members who hold an NRA high power classification card, or who can prove service training in the proper sustained fire technique, will automatically qualify.

6. No sustained or rapid firing shall be done except under the supervision of another person.

7. Members who wish to train for rapid or sustained fire qualification will seek the coaching of any club officer or designated member.

8. Except for sustained or rapid fire, rifles will be loaded with one cartridge at a time. Pistols and revolvers with not more than 5 cartridges.

9. Fouling or warming shots must be aimed at the backstop space between targets, in horizontal line with the target center. Shooting over the backstop is forbidden.

10. Targets must be fastened to the frames provided, with staples, thumb tacks, or adhesives to be provided by the shooter in such a manner that the frame is not injured. At the 200 yard butts, sliding frames are permanently installed. For the other outdoor ranges, portable frames, which must be placed in the target stands in front of the backstops, are available in the range house. The stands are so located that a proper backstop will safely receive the bullet, and no other positioning of the targets is authorized.

11. No persons other than:

- a — Adult club members;
- b — Military personnel authorized range privileges;
- c — Persons accompanied by an adult club member.
- d — Club Target Boys

will be allowed at any time in or about the 200-yard Butt House.

12. Target frames will be returned to the range house when shooting is finished.

13. Users of the 200 yard range will replace and secure the target openings in the Butt House, and lock the door, when finished.

SHOTGUN (TRAP RANGES)

1. Only clay pigeons, or ~~empty tin cans~~, may be fired at. Under no circumstances will any other objects, such as bottles, be used as targets.
2. Shooting will be only from the shooting stations provided, to insure that the shot travels in the direction of maximum safety.
3. Use of shot larger than No. 7½ birdshot is forbidden. BB shot, buckshot, single balls or slugs are not to be used for aerial (wing) shooting.
4. When more than one person is firing, each firer will keep the breech of his gun open until the shooter immediately preceding him has fired and it is his turn to shoot.
5. Persons wishing to pattern shotguns on the rifle ranges will have to supply their own target holders, as bird shot ruins the wooden target frames.